

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently amended) A system according to claim [[1]] 8, wherein the home page management server receives the mail message in accordance with a reception process of a mail message includes a process for sending a mail transmission request to the mail server, and a reception process of a mail message from the mail server.

4-7. (Cancelled).

8. (New) A system for automatically updating a home page comprising:
a update terminal configured to provide a content file including an advertisement content on the home page and a first identifying item specifying the home page, and a mail message including a second identifying item specifying the home page, a request of updating the home page and a update file;

a home page management server connected to a user terminal and the update terminal though a communication network, which transmits HTML document data to the user terminal to provide the home page on the user terminal in response to a transmission request of transmitting the HTML document data from the user terminal, the HTML document data provided with banner data relating to the advertisement content; and

a mail server connected to the update terminal and the home page management server though a communication network, which receives the mail message from the update terminal and stores the mail message;

wherein the home page management server includes:

a home page data base storing the HTML document data for the home page and the content files transferred from the update terminal;

a schedule data base storing schedule data including a date item which relates to a update of the advertisement contents and specify one of the content files;

a home page management unit reading out the HTML document data from the home page data base in response to the transmission request from the user terminal, and transmitting the readout HTML document data to the user terminal, the home page management unit receiving the content file from the update terminal, and transferring the content file to the home page data base;

a patrol search unit patrolling the mail server, the update terminal, the home page data base and the schedule data base to search for at least one of the request of updating the home page, the first and second identifying items and the date item to extract updated one of the content files and the updating files in accordance with a patrol order of the mail server, the update terminal, the home page data base, and the schedule data base, a patrol timing, and a number of times that patrol is to be carried out, which are determined based on the order of priority for accessing the mail server, the home page data base, the update terminal, and the schedule data base; and

a banner generating unit generating the banner data with utilizing the updated one of the content files and the updating files to update HTML document data with the banner data which is incorporated in the HTML document data with reference to the schedule data at the patrol timing;

wherein the update terminal is allowed to set the patrol timing, patrol order, number of times patrol is to be carried out, and setting regarding whether or not to cause the patrol to be carried out.

9. (New) A system according to claim 8, wherein the home page management unit extracts a updated HTML document data stored in the home page data base in accordance with a process for reading out a latest first HTML document data and a second HTML document data having an update time a predetermined period of time before the current time from the home page data base, and a process for extracting a mismatched data part of the first and second HTML document data.

10. (New) A system according to claim 8, wherein the patrol search unit sends a file search request through the management unit to the update terminal, and a reception process of an update file from the update terminal.

11. (New) A system according to claim 8, wherein the schedule database sets with a predetermined cycle period, and updates the content data associated with the schedule database, and the search process of schedule data in the schedule database includes a search process of schedule data associated with a schedule corresponding to the current time.

12. (New) A system for automatically updating a home page, comprising:
a home page database storing an HTML data;
a banner generation unit generating a banner HTML data;
a mail server receiving a mail message from an entrant, the mail message including a first request to update the banner HTML data;
an update terminal storing an update data from the entrant, the update data including a second request to update the banner HTML data;
a schedule database storing schedule data relating to the banner HTML data;
a patrol search unit patrolling the mail server, the update terminal, the home page database, and the schedule database to search and extract data relating the banner HTML data; and
a home page management unit reading the HTML data from the home page database, issuing a patrol search command to the patrol search unit to search and extract data relating to the banner HTML data from the first request, the second request, and the schedule data, issuing a banner generation command to the banner generation unit to generate the banner HTML data based on the data, reading the banner HTML data from the banner generation unit, appending the banner HTML data to the HTML data, and transmitting the HTML data with the banner HTML data appended thereto to a user terminal in response to a request from the user terminal.